

Vahid Tizfahm (m) – The Baha'i Seven

Adoption Status: Not Adopted

Country: Iran

Occupation: Optometrist and Baha'i member.

Detained Since: 2008

Charges: Espionage, propaganda against the Islamic Republic, and establishment of an illegal administration

Sentence: 20 years imprisonment



Additional: Tizfahm was born and spent his youth in the city of Urumiyyih and went to Tabriz at age eighteen to study to become an optician. He later also studied sociology at the Advanced Baha'i Studies Institute, an affiliate of the Baha'i Institute for Higher Education. Since his youth, Mr. Tizfahm has served the Baha'i community in a variety of capacities – for a time as a member of the Baha'i National Youth Committee and later as part of the Auxiliary Board, an advisory group that serves to uplift and inspire Baha'i communities.

The Baha'i Seven

The Baha'i Seven are former Baha'i leaders in Iran who have been deprived of the rights accorded to prisoners under Iran's own laws and regulations. Prior to their arrests in 2008, the seven were members of an ad hoc national-level group that attended to the spiritual and social needs of Iran's Baha'i community. In September 2010 they were told that their sentences had been reduced to 10 years after an appeal court acquitted them of some of the charges, including espionage, but they have never been given a written copy of either of the court verdicts. It was first reported on 18 March, 2011 that the 20-year sentence had been reinstated.

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